

DEC 05 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

CHANG ET AL

CASE NO.: SO0007 US NA

APPLICATION NO.: 10/733,998

GROUP ART UNIT: 1732

FILED: DECEMBER 10, 2003

EXAMINER: L.B. TENTONI

FOR: STAPLE FIBERS AND PROCESS FOR MAKING SAME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated 6 November 2006 setting a shortened statutory period for response that does not expire until 6 February 2007.

The present application contains claims 1-30 as submitted in the Applicants' previous "Amendment and Response".

In the aforementioned Final Office Action, the Examiner has maintained the following rejections of claims 1-30:

(1) claims 16-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by the disclosure of Casey et al (WO01/68962);

(2) claims 16-30 stand further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over the disclosure of Casey et al; and

(3) claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over the disclosure of Casey et al, as applied to claims 16-30, and further in view of Hernandez et al (US2002/0071951A1).

Although not explicitly stated, the previous rejection of claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being obvious

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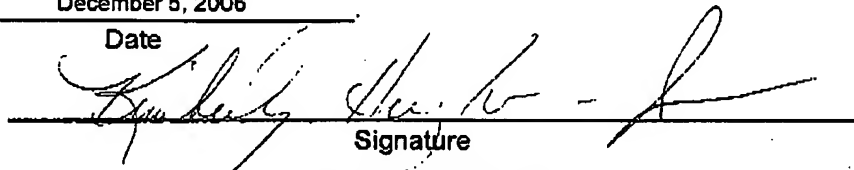
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Response After Final Rejection (3pgs.)

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